

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
delivering an electrical signal to a first position using at least a first electrode located in or adjacent to a first cardiac chamber;
sensing a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal using at least a second electrode located at a second position in or adjacent to a second cardiac chamber; and
determining a change in an inter-electrode spacing between the first electrode and the second electrode based, at least in part, on [[the]] a percent change of the sensed potential relative to a baseline potential.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering delivers the electrical signal using a unipolar configuration.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first position is in a right ventricle or in a vessel.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering delivers the electrical signal using a ring electrode.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the second position is in a vessel.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the second position is in a cardiac chamber.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sensing senses the potential using a unipolar configuration.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sensing occurs during a refractory period.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering occurs during a refractory period.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a ventricular volume from the inter-electrode spacing between the first electrode and displacement of the second electrode.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a ventricular distance from the change in the inter-electrode spacing between the first electrode and the second electrode.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a left ventricular diameter from the change in the inter-electrode spacing between the first electrode and the second electrode.
13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a stage of congestive heart failure.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising delivering cardiac therapy based, at least in part, on the sensing.
15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
means for delivering an electrical signal to a first position using at least a first electrode located in or adjacent to a first cardiac chamber;
means for sensing a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal at a second position using at least a second electrode located in or adjacent to a second cardiac chamber;

means for determining a percent change of the sensed potential relative to a baseline potential; and

means for determining a change in an inter-electrode spacing between the first electrode and the second electrode based, at least in part, on the percent change of the sensed potential means for sensing.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for delivering an electrical signal comprises a power source, a lead and an electrode.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the mean for sensing a potential comprises an electrode, a lead and a circuit.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the means for determining a change in an inter-electrode spacing comprises an implantable and programmable device.

19. (Currently Amended) An implantable cardiac system comprising:
an implantable device having a case capable of acting as an electrode;
one or more implantable leads having one or more electrodes wherein the one or more leads are connectable to the device; and
circuitry that is operative to deliver an electrical signal to a first electrode position in or adjacent to a first cardiac chamber, sense a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal at a second electrode position in or adjacent to a second cardiac chamber, and

a controller adapted to determine a percent change of the sensed potential relative to a baseline potential and to determine a change in an inter-electrode spacing between the first electrode and the second electrode based, at least in part, on the percent change of the sensed potential sensing.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the one or more implantable leads comprises at least two leads including a first lead that is configured for placement in a right ventricle and a second lead that is configured for placement in a left ventricle.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the circuitry is operative to deliver an electrical signal to a first electrode carried by the first lead, and to sense a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal at a second electrode carried by the second lead.

22. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
delivering an electrical signal to a first position using a first electrode located in or adjacent to a cardiac chamber using a unipolar electrode configuration;
sensing a potential generated by the delivered electrical signal using a second electrode located at a second position;
determining a percent change of the sensed potential relative to a baseline potential; and
determining a change in an inter-electrode spacing between the first electrode and the second electrode based, at least in part, on the percent change of the sensed potential sensing.